--- 50 Cigars - “Series of 1971” - imperforate - “Maple Leaf” ---

--- unknown company, using codes as [1091] - scanned at 150% scale ---

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The catalogue lists the recess printed fifty cigar “Series of 1971” black stamp as follows:

RG-744 - 50 cigars, black, imperforate
RG-745 - 50 cigars, black, coarse roulette

For some odd reason I have not found a cigar box with the stamp in the illustrated format. The 5 mm. Gothic code reads with the [year] repeated as the initial and final digit, and the [month] as the two central digits. Thus **1021** reads as the second month, or February, of 1971. The stamps are not uncommon, so the manufacturer is one of the larger cigar companies perhaps “Benson & Hedges” after acquisition by the “Consolidated Cigar Company of Canada” - formerly “Simon Cigars”.

★**RG-744** - 50 cigars, *imperforate*, coded **1021** in 5 mm. serifed Gothic numbers, from February 1971

[RG-744]		1971	1972	1973	1974
January	---	2012	---	---	
February	1021	2022	---	---	
March	---	2032	---	---	
April	1041	---	3043	---	
May	---	2052	3053	---	
June	---	---	---	4064	
July	---	---	---	---	
August	---	---	---	---	
September	1091	---	---	---	
October	---	---	---	---	
November	---	---	---	---	
December	1121	---	---	---	

The sequence should end in August 1974 with **4084**.

I have not located a cigar box using the above 5 mm. Gothic cancellation. “Simon Cigars” became the “Consolidated Cigar Co. of Canada Ltd.” This coding reads in a fashion similar to the large 6 mm. Roman codes **4034** being used by Consolidated at that time. Does this 5 mm. coding **4034** come from **47-10D**?

To date the collection contains only a single copy of the *coarse roulette* fifty cigars “Maple Leaf” **RG-745** used by this unidentified company. The cancellation **1061** is in 5 mm Gothic and possibly is a “**47-10D** cancellation (since it follows the Consolidated Cigars coding format).

★**RG-745** - 50 cigars, *coarse roulette*, coded **1061** in 5 mm. Gothic numbers, from June 1971

[G-382a]	1971	1972	1973	1974
January	---	---	---	---
February	---	---	---	---
March	---	---	---	---
April	---	---	---	---
May	---	---	---	---
June	**1061**	---	---	---
July	---	---	---	---
August	---	---	---	---
September	---	---	---	---
October	---	---	---	---
November	---	---	---	---
December	---	---	---	---

File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1971 \ unknown \ 50 Cigars],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 24th 2013, JBH